## AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JANUARY 4, 2010 AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 22, 2009 AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 16, 2009

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009-10 REGULAR SESSION

## ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 498

## **Introduced by Assembly Member Hayashi**

February 24, 2009

An act to add Section 998.415 to, and to add Chapter 2.8 (commencing with Section 728) to Division 4 of, the Military and Veterans Code, relating to military housing. An act to amend Section 5068 of the Vehicle Code, relating to vehicles.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 498, as amended, Hayashi. Affordable housing: veterans. *Vehicles: special interest license plates and decals.* 

Existing law authorizes private organizations, including veterans' organizations, to participate in special interest license plate programs in which the Department of Motor Vehicles issues license plates with a participating organization's distinctive design or decal, and specifies the various fees concerning the issuance, renewal of, registration of, and replacement of damaged or unserviceable plates and decals. Existing law permits any individual to apply for a veterans' organization special interest license plate and decal.

This bill would authorize a former American prisoner of war (POW) who is otherwise eligible for a special license plate as a former POW to apply for a veterans' organization special interest license plate and decal, would exempt that former POW from the payment of fees under these provisions, and would authorize the surviving spouse of that

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former POW to retain the special interest license plate and decal subject to specified conditions.

Existing law establishes the Multifamily Housing Program under the administration of the Department of Housing and Community Development to provide a standardized set of program rules and features applicable to all housing types based on the department's California Housing Rehabilitation Program. Existing law authorizes a sponsor, as defined, of a supportive housing development funded by the Multifamily Housing Program, to restrict occupancy of a project to persons with veteran status under specified circumstances.

This bill would require the Department of Veterans Affairs to collaborate with the Department of Housing and Community Development to facilitate the development of multifamily housing for military veterans and their families. The bill would require the department to take action to ensure that if land is donated to the state for the express purpose of providing land for military veterans' housing, or if the department receives funding for a housing project restricted for the use of military veterans, any such housing built on that land, or using that source of funds, may be used only for housing for military veterans.

This bill would also require the department, in collaboration with the Department of Housing and Community Development, not later than July 1, 2010, and annually thereafter, to prepare and submit to the Legislature a study evaluating the most effective ways to increase the supply of affordable housing for military veterans and their families, including specified information and recommendations, as prescribed.

This bill would provide for submission of an amendment to the Veterans' Bond Act of 2008 to the voters at the November 2, 2010, statewide general election in accordance with specified law.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 5068 of the Vehicle Code is amended to 2 read:
- 3 5068. (a) (1) Any A veterans' organization may apply either
- 4 individually or with other veterans' organizations to meet the
- 5 application threshold set forth in Section 5060 for special interest
- 6 plates. An organization that meets the minimum application

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requirement by applying with other organizations under this subdivision shall be issued a regular license plate bearing a distinctive design or decal approved under subdivision (a) of Section 5060.

- (2) Special interest plates issued under this section may be issued in a combination of numbers or letters, or both, requested by the owner or lessee of the vehicle, to be displayed in addition to the design or decal authorized under paragraph (1), subject to Section 5105.
- (b) In addition to the regular fees for an original registration, a renewal of registration, or a transfer of registration, the following fees shall be paid by individuals applying for a veterans' organization special interest license plate or decal:
- (1) Thirty dollars (\$30) for the initial issuance of the plates and decals. The plates shall be permanent and may not be required to be replaced.
- (2) Thirty dollars (\$30) for each renewal of registration that includes the continued display of the plates or decals.
- (3) Fifteen dollars (\$15) for transfer of the plates to another vehicle.
- (4) Thirty-five dollars (\$35) for replacement plates, if they become damaged or unserviceable.
- (5) Ten dollars (\$10) for replacement decals, if they become damaged or unserviceable.
- (6) Forty dollars (\$40) for the personalization of the plates, as authorized under paragraph (2) of subdivision (a).
- (c) This section shall become operative on July 1, 2002. A former American prisoner of war who is otherwise eligible for a special license plate pursuant to Section 5101.5, may apply for a veterans' organization special interest license plate and decal in lieu of the special license plate issued pursuant to Section 5101.5 and shall be exempt from the payment of fees required under subdivision (b). The surviving spouse of the former American prisoner of war may retain the special interest license plate and decal issued under this section and is subject to the conditions set forth in Section 5101.5.

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All matter omitted in this version of the bill appears in the bill as amended in the Assembly, April 22, 2009. (JR11)